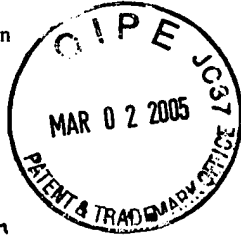


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Services as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Attorney for Applicants



AF 12/10

Date: 28 February 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/706,548
Applicant(s): Spano, et al.
Filed: 12 November 2003
Title: METHOD OF OPERATING A DISPENSING CABINET
Art Unit: 3653
Examiner: Michael E. Butler

Docket No.: DB000972-001

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed on 1 December, 2004 for the above-captioned application, enclosed is the following:

- Response and Amendment Under Rule 116

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0888. A copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

A return postcard is also enclosed. Please date stamp and mail the postcard in order to acknowledge receipt of this correspondence.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward L. Pencoske
Reg. No. 29,688
THORP, REED & ARMSTRONG
One Oxford Centre, 14th Fl.
301 Grant St.
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1425
(412) 394-7789
Attorneys for Applicants

Dated: 28 February 2005

Appl. No.: 10/706,548
Docket No.: DB000972-001
Amdt. Dated: 28 February 2005
Reply to Office action of 1 December 2004



Appl. No.: 10/706,548
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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

In response to the Office action dated 1 December 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification: None

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings: None

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.